



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Reclaim + Repair: The Mahogany Project**

**Come celebrate the creativity and craft of Vancouver's design community.**

VANCOUVER, BC—The *Museum of Vancouver* (MOV) proudly presents *Reclaim + Repair: The Mahogany Project*, a new feature exhibition opening to the public on July 20, 2023.

A diverse group of 31 emerging and seasoned local designers and makers were selected to create 22 objects made from vintage mahogany provided by MOV. The exhibition features a wide array of design objects from furniture, lighting and household objects, to jewelry, and much more. This exhibition is curated by *Propellor Studio* in collaboration with *Museum of Vancouver*.

The exhibition celebrates the creativity and craft of Vancouver's design community, while engaging with questions central to the role of design in advancing sustainability as well as social and environmental justice. The idea for *Reclaim + Repair: The Mahogany Project* was born out of a desire to honour this material and the places from which it originated.

The mahogany used in this exhibition came from a local business that specialized in designing and manufacturing boating equipment. It was harvested between the 1950s and 1970s in Guatemala and Nicaragua. When the factory closed, this leftover wood went into storage for decades. Recently, the organization responsible for the wood felt it was important to give it a second life and donated it to the MOV's upcycling design program.

Works created by designers for the exhibition are for sale. A significant portion of the sales will be donated to support Indigenous-led reforestation efforts in Nicaragua and Guatemala, where the mahogany was extracted in the last century.

### **The 31 designers or 22 design teams selected for participating in Reclaim + Repair: The Mahogany Project at Museum of Vancouver:**

**Arnt Arntzen, Becki Chan** (Becki Chan Design), **Imu Chan** (Imu Chan Architecture), **Christa Clay** (Studio AY), **Stu Coleman** (SCD WOODWORKS), **Brent Comber** (Brent Comber Originals), **Devin Connell** (Carbon Being Design), **Tanya Gleave** (T A N I A G L E A V E), **Tyler Goin** (Studio Noise Assembly), **Anna Gustafson** (Blue Horse), **Jessica Guthrie** (JC Guthrie), **Graeme Horton** (Lock and Mortice), **Angelica Shiwon Jang** (Plain Sight Creative), **Kevin Isherwood** (Studio AY), **Benny Kwok** (Smla Studio), **Jordan Lypkie** (Objects of Encounter), **Sage Nowak Mario Paredes** (Workbench Studio), **Shelley D. Park** (Shelley D. Park Guitars), **Josiah Peters** (Lock and Mortice), **Nina Rozin** (Nina Rozin Footwear Studio), **Kaly Ryan** (Capella Design), **Bram Sawatzky** (Willow & Stump Design), **Ryan Tam** (Lock and Mortice), **Diane Thompson** (Clay Plus Jewelry), **Kenneth Torrance** (Barter), **Katy Young Mira Yung** (Smla Studio), **Toby Barratt, Pamela Goddard and Nik Rust** (Propellor Studio)

## Quotes:

“Vancouver’s design community is growing stronger and more diverse with each passing year, and we’ve taken a lot of pleasure from helping bring this community together for **Reclaim + Repair: The Mahogany Project**. The designers have really stepped up, creating exceptional pieces in a wide variety of mediums for this show. It's been inspiring for us to work with such a diverse group of designers. Commons threads run through all of the work in the show, not least of which are extraordinary dedication to craft and thoughtful approaches to creating sustainable work.” - **Toby Barratt, Propellor Studio**

“We are SO thrilled by the work of these 31 local artists and designers who transformed this dormant wood into objects that sing, surf waves, and adorn our bodies and our houses. **The Mahogany Project** artists invite us to rethink the way we source materials and how we make and consume objects. They call for designs and approaches to life that help reduce our ecological footprint and reconnect us with the natural world and each other.” - **Viviane Gosselin, Director of Collections & Exhibitions, Curator of Contemporary Culture at MOV**

## About Museum of Vancouver

The Museum of Vancouver connects Vancouverites to each other and connects Vancouver to the world. The museum’s programs, exhibitions, and collections bring people together and inspire conversation about the future. The museum, an enthusiastic civic advocate, is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring a socially connected, civically engaged city.

**Community Sponsor:** NorthPac Forestry Group

**Institutional Sponsors:** City of Vancouver, BC Arts Council, Canadian Heritage

**Listing Information:** Reclaim + Repair: The Mahogany Project

**Public Opening Date:** July 20, 2023

**Location:** Museum of Vancouver, 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC

**Website:** <https://museumofvancouver.ca/the-mahogany-project>